

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 as follows (see the accompanying "Marked-up" version pursuant to 1.121).

C<sup>1</sup>

1. (Twice Amended) A Sindbis viral vector for transducing a target cell with high efficiency which comprises a gene encoding a chimeric envelope protein containing an IgG-binding domain of protein A sufficient to bind an Fc domain of an antibody with strong affinity wherein the envelope protein is a Sindbis virus envelope protein; wherein the envelope protein is operable to direct the assembly of the protein into a viral particle;

and wherein said chimeric envelope protein alters natural viral tropism.

C<sup>2</sup>

2. (Amended) The viral vector of claim 1, wherein the portion of the IgG binding domain of Protein A is inserted into an E2 glycoprotein of the Sindbis virus envelope protein.

C<sup>3</sup>

3. (Twice Amended) A chimeric Sindbis virus for transducing a target cell (with high efficiency) which comprises a gene of interest under the control of an appropriate viral sequence and a chimeric protein comprising a chimeric Sindbis envelope protein containing an IgG-binding domain of protein A sufficient to bind an Fc domain of an antibody with strong affinity and wherein said chimeric envelope protein alters natural viral tropism.

Please cancel claims 2-7 without prejudice or disclaimer.